

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 RABAT 02302 191605Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----082037 191612Z /42
O 191555Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5174

S E C R E T RABAT 2302

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP MO
SUBJECT: KING HASSAN'S DESIRE TO VISIT WASHINGTON

REF STATE 99416

1. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, FOREIGN MINISTER BOUCETTA AND AMBASSADOR BENGELLOUN ASKED ME APRIL 14 FOR MY OPINION ON CHANCES OF PRESIDENT BEING ABLE TO MEET WITH KING DURING PERIOD OF MAY 20-30. I REPLIED THAT WHILE I HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS POINT AND WAS UNINFORMED ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S CALENDAR FOR THAT PERIOD, MY ASSUMPTION WAS THAT IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE A LATE MAY MEETING BETWEEN KING AND PRESIDENT ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE, ESPECIALLY WITH OTHER CHIEFS OF STATE LIKELY TO BE IN THE U.S. AT THAT TIME TO ATTEND UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT. I WILL CONTINUE TO CONDITION MOROCCANS TO STRONG LIKELIHOOD OF NEGATIVE REPLY AS OCCASIONS PERMIT, REFERRING ALSO TO NATO SUMMIT SCHEDULED FOR WASHINGTON AT END OF MAY.

2. IF WE MUST INDEED BE NEGATIVE REGARDING MAY 20-30 TIMING, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT IN MY VIEW TO INTRODUCE A POSITIVE NOTE INTO PRESIDENT'S FORMAL REPLY BY SUGGESTING SPECIFIC DATES FOR A DAY OR DAY AND A HALF WORKING VISIT IN JUNE. THIS WOULD GO FAR TO ALLEVIATE MOROCCAN CONCERN ABOUT TRENDS IN OUR RELATIONSHIP, AS REFLECTED IN MY APRIL 14 CONVERSATION WITH BOUCETTA DN BENGELLOUN (RABAT 2222 AND 2248).

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PAGE 02 RABAT 02302 191605Z

ANDERSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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